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YUGOSLAVIA

Yugoslav Crackdown on Emigres Continues

The Yugoslav internal security apparatus has apparently taken Tito's demands for increased "vigilance" to heart. A rash of recent court actions--primarily involving Yugoslavs involved to some degree in emigre activities--indicates that the security service is concentrating on neutralizing the domestic base for activity on behalf of the emigres.

Since the end of May, eight Yugoslav have either been convicted or indicted for associating with emigre groups. The charges range from planning terrorist acts to past membership in known emigre-terrorist organizations. Sentences varied by gravity of offense from one to ten years of "rigorous imprisonment."

Most of the cases have been under investigation since the turn of the year. At that time, the Belgrade media were shrill in denouncing "hostile forces" for sowing negative rumors about Yugoslavia's role in the Middle East War. At the anniversary of the security forces in mid May, Tito ordered "still more vigilance" and put the emphasis on rooting out bad elements early in their development.

The security forces are rebuilding after years of neglect and demoralization following the purge of Rankovic and his secret police cohorts in 1966. The Ministry of Interior this spring received a supplemental budget of some \$30 million to fund a five year modernization plan. In addition, the regime appointed Franjo Herljevic, an active duty general, to the post of minister of interior; an action that at least symbolically subordinates the poorly respected internal security service with the well respected military establishment.

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